

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re U.S. Patent Application of

OKANO et al.

Application Number: To Be Assigned

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

**For: CENTRIFUGAL SEPARATOR AND SAMPLE
PREPARATION DEVICE USING THE SEPARATOR**

**Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231**

**REQUEST FOR PRIORITY
UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119
AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**

Sir:

In the matter of the above-captioned application for a United States patent, notice is hereby given that the Applicant claims the priority date of June 23, 1999, the filing date of the national entry of PCT/JP99/03341.

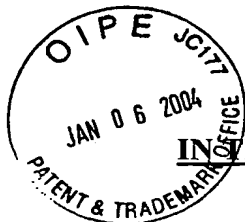
Respectfully submitted,


Stanley P. Fisher

Registration Number 24,344

REED SMITH HAZEL & THOMAS LLP
3110 Fairview Park Drive
Suite 1400
Falls Church, Virginia 22042
(703) 641-4200
December 20, 2001

JUAN CARLOS A. MARQUEZ
Registration No. 34,072



41

1723

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED
JAN 09 2004
TC 1700

In re U.S. Patent Application of)

OKANO et al.)

Application Number: 10/018,430)

Filed: December 20, 2001)

For: CENTRIFUGAL SEPARATOR AND SAMPLE)
PREPARATION DEVICE USING THE SEPARATOR)

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. NITT.0050)

Art Unit 1723 ✓

Examiner:
Drodge, Joseph W.Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231COVER LETTER

Sir:

[x] The fee for submission of claims is calculated as shown below:

FOR	TOTAL WITH NEW CLAIMS ADDED	TOTAL CURRENTLY ON FILE	CLAIMS PAID	RATE	CALCULATION
Total Claims	50	52	32 (Over 20)	x \$18	0.00
Independent Claims	18	18	15 (Over 3)	x \$86	0.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S)				+ \$290	0
REDUCTION FOR FILING BY SMALL ENTITY (note 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.9, 1.27, 1.28). IF APPLICABLE, VERIFIED STATEMENT MUST BE ATTACHED				x ½	
			TOTAL		0.00

In addition, the below-identified communications are submitted in the above-captioned application or proceeding:

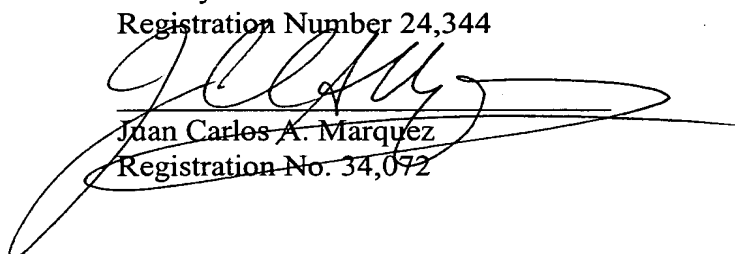
- [x] Response to Office Action
(with Claim Amendments)
[] Letter to Draftsperson
[] Preliminary Amendment
[] Other _____

- [x] Substitute Specification and Marked up copy
[] Terminal Disclaimer
[] Petition under _____
[] Assignment

- [] Please charge my **Deposit Account Number** _____ in the amount of _____ to cover the fees for _____. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.
- [x] A check in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the fee is enclosed.
- [x] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication, including patent application filing fees and processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17, or credit any overpayment to **Deposit Account Number 08-1480**.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley P. Fisher
Registration Number 24,344



Juan Carlos A. Marquez
Registration No. 34,072

REED SMITH LLP
3110 Fairview Park Drive
Suite 1400
Falls Church, Virginia 22042
(703) 641-4200
January 6, 2004